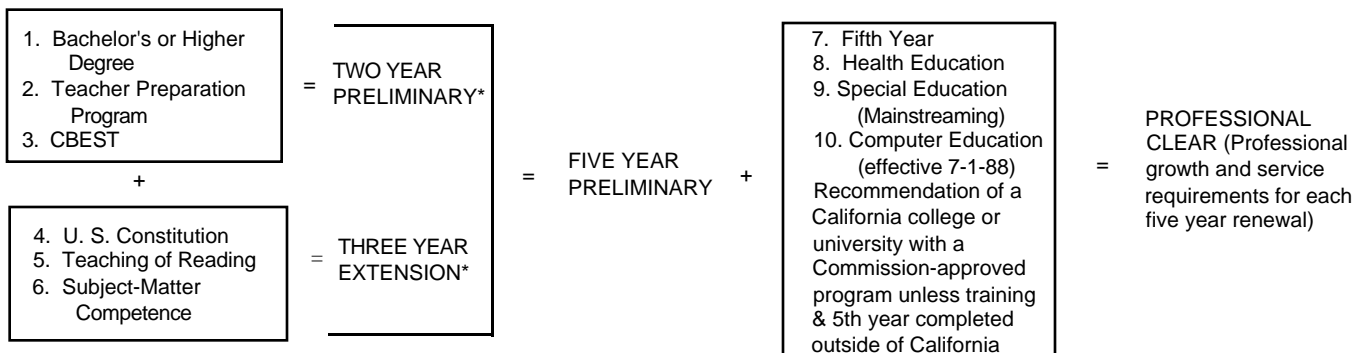


## MULTIPLE SUBJECT TEACHING CREDENTIAL

A Multiple Subject Teaching Credential authorizes the holder to teach in a self-contained classroom such as the classrooms in most elementary schools. **Candidates for the Multiple Subject Credential who complete their teacher preparation through a Commission-approved program in California must be recommended for the credential through their college or university credentials office.** Elementary school teachers who completed their professional preparation **outside of California** may apply directly to the Commission for their initial credentials. The credentialing process in California is made up of a sequence of requirements which may take as long as six years to complete. The teacher receiving his or her preliminary credential is making a commitment to complete the process and obtain the professional clear credential. The sequence of requirements is diagrammed below, then each requirement is explained in detail. Please contact the Commission, your employer, or a Commission-approved college or university for application materials.

### DIAGRAM OF CREDENTIAL REQUIREMENTS



\* Only available to candidates who have completed a full teacher preparation program outside of California.

### REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PRELIMINARY CREDENTIAL

1. **Education:** Completion of a baccalaureate or higher degree, except in professional education, from a regionally accredited college or university. A degree in education may be acceptable if (1) the degree was completed outside of California, or (2) the applicant verifies the completion of two years of successful teaching on the basis of a standard credential in the state in which the service was rendered, or (3) the degree in education contains no less subject-matter course work than would be required for a subject other than education.
2. **Professional Teacher Preparation:** Completion of a multiple subject professional teacher preparation program, including student teaching with a minimum grade of C on a five point scale, taken at a regionally accredited institution approved by the Commission or by the state certification agency of the state in which the program was completed. If no professional preparation program was completed or if the grade in student teaching was less than a C, the applicant may qualify for the credential if he or she can verify the completion of three years of successful full-time multiple subject (self-contained classroom) teaching within the last ten years. This experience must have been completed while the applicant held or was eligible for a full professional certificate based on a baccalaureate or higher degree from the state in which the experience was obtained. If the grade in student teaching was a pass or credit, the applicant is assumed to have completed student teaching at the C grade level or better. Applicants who meet the requirements of the Interstate Agreement (see reverse) are considered to have successfully completed the teacher preparation program requirement.
3. **CBEST:** Passage of the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST). To pass CBEST one must obtain a minimum scaled score of 41 in each of the three sections (reading, mathematics, and writing). However, a section score as low as 37 is acceptable if the total scaled score is at least 123. Out-of-state applicants who have not yet passed the CBEST may wish to contact their California employers about the possibility of getting a One-Year Non-Renewable (OYNR) Credential pending the passage of CBEST. See the CBEST leaflet (CL-667) for more details.
4. **Provisions and Principles of the U.S. Constitution:** Completion of a course (two semester units or three quarter units) in the provisions and principles of the United States Constitution OR passage of an examination in the subject given by a regionally accredited junior college, college, or university OR verification of meeting the interstate agreement requirements described on the reverse of this form.
5. **Methods of Teaching Reading:** Completion of a course in the methods of teaching reading OR passage (with a minimum score of 680) of the Praxis Series Subject Assessment entitled "Introduction to Teaching of Reading."
6. **Subject-Matter Competence:** Verification of subject-matter competency by one of two methods: (1) completing a Commission-approved liberal arts subject-matter program or its equivalent and obtaining a subject-matter statement from the authorized person in the education department of a California college or university with an approved program (California colleges and universities may have recency requirements that have to be met before a subject-matter statement can be granted) OR (2) achieving a passing score on the appropriate subject-matter examination. Information about the appropriate subject-matter examination, including passing scores and registration, are on the Verifying Subject Matter Competence leaflet which may be obtained from the Commission.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROFESSIONAL CLEAR**

**Formal Recommendation from a California College or University:** In order to obtain the professional clear credential, the applicant must secure the recommendation of a California teacher preparation institution with a Commission-approved program. The preliminary credential is issued for a maximum of five years. If requirements for the professional clear credential are not completed before the expiration date of the preliminary, the holder will be unable to teach in the public schools of California on that credential. When the requirements are complete, if the responsible authorities at the institution are unable or refuse to recommend the applicant, he or she is entitled to have the specific reasons for such refusal given in writing. He or she may then use that information in support of an application for a direct appeal to the Commission. Applicants prepared outside of California who have already completed their fifth year of study will be given a complete evaluation by the Commission so they may apply directly to the Commission for the professional clear credential without going through the institution for a formal recommendation.

7. **Fifth Year of Study:** Completion of a fifth year of study after the bachelor's degree. A fifth year of study consists of 30 semester units in a defined field of study designed to improve the teacher's competence and skills. Those applicants who have not completed a fifth year must do so within five years of the receipt of the preliminary credential. This fifth year course of study should be approved by a California teacher preparation institution and may be used for one or more of the following purposes:
  - (a) additional subject-matter preparation including, but not limited to, pursuit of a master's or higher degree,
  - (b) completion of an approved program for an advanced or specialized credential,
  - (c) in-service training for which college or university credit is given, or
  - (d) study undertaken to complete an approved program of professional preparation.
8. **Health Education:** Completion of a unit requirement in health education, including, but not limited to, nutrition, the physiological and sociological effects of abuse of alcohol, narcotics, and drugs, and the use of tobacco. This requirement must include verification of training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) which covers infant and child to adult CPR skills, plus rescue breathing and choke rescue, education risk factors, sudden cardiac arrest, and may include causes of respiratory arrest, healthy heart concept and emphasis on recognizing the symptoms of heart attack and taking action before CPR becomes necessary. CPR certification must be completed while in a teacher preparation program or while teaching on a valid credential based on a teacher education program.
9. **Special Education:** Completion of a requirement in the needs of, and methods of providing educational opportunities to, individuals with exceptional needs (mainstreaming).
10. **Computer Education:** Satisfactory completion of computer education course work which includes general and specialized skills in the use of computers in educational settings.

**COURSE WORK SUBMITTED FOR A CREDENTIAL:** An applicant must have an overall grade point average of C or better on a five-point scale, or the approved institution's required GPA, whichever is higher, in all course work offered toward fulfillment of credential requirements. Continuing education units (CEU's) are not acceptable to fulfill credential requirements. If it is not clear from the entry on college transcripts that a particular course fulfills one of the specific credential requirements, a course description or a letter from the appropriate department chairperson verifying the content of the course work should be enclosed with the credential application.

## **INTERSTATE AGREEMENTS**

Applicants who meet the Interstate Agreement are considered to have successfully completed their professional teacher preparation program requirement (#2 on the front of this leaflet) and the U.S. Constitution requirement (#4 on the front of this leaflet). The Interstate Agreement does not clear any of the other requirements. The Interstate Agreement applies to applicants for the Multiple Subject Teaching Credential who hold or are eligible for a comparable credential (for teaching in an elementary or self-contained, not special education, classroom) from outside of California and who:

1. have completed a state-approved baccalaureate or post-baccalaureate level elementary teacher preparation program since September 30, 1986, at a regionally accredited institution in a state with which California has an agreement, **OR**
2. hold a regular or advanced certificate for elementary or self-contained classroom teaching issued by a state with which California has an agreement **AND** have taught in an elementary classroom in that state 27 months within the past seven years. At least 18 months of this experience must be under the certificate. If no state certificate was required for the experience, the applicant must have taught the subjects to which the certificate applies in a school where student attendance satisfies the state compulsory attendance law.

## **STATES HAVING INTERSTATE AGREEMENTS WITH CALIFORNIA AS OF JANUARY 1, 1995:**

Alabama	District of Columbia	Illinois	Massachusetts	New Jersey	Pennsylvania	Utah
Arkansas	Florida	Indiana	Michigan	New York	Rhode Island	Vermont
Colorado	Georgia	Kentucky	Montana	North Carolina	South Carolina	Virginia
Connecticut	Hawaii	Maine	Nevada	Ohio	Tennessee	Washington
Delaware	Idaho	Maryland	New Hampshire	Oregon	Texas	West Virginia

## **AUTHORIZATION FOR SERVICE**

A teacher authorized for multiple subject instruction may be assigned to teach in any self-contained classroom (preschool, kindergarten, and grades 1 through 12, inclusive, or in classes organized primarily for adults); or to teach any subject in departmentalized classes to a given class or group of students in grade 8 and below, provided that the teacher has completed at least twelve semester units, or six upper division or graduate units, of course work at an accredited institution in each subject to be taught. Governing boards determine the authorization needed for a teaching assignment.